



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District

Information Paper

Flood Control, Souris River Basin: N.D.



Aerial view of Lake Darling Dam, Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge in North Dakota.

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Location/Description

The project provides flood protection to urban and rural residents along the Souris River in North Dakota. The Souris River Basin encompasses approximately 24,000 square miles in southeastern Saskatchewan, Canada, and northwestern North Dakota. Project features include: the purchase of flood storage at Rafferty and Alameda Dams in Saskatchewan; flood control and dam safety improvements at Lake Darling Dam; levee and channel improvement at Sawyer, Velva, Renville County Park, and six subdivisions from Burlington to Minot; flood proofing of about 70 rural homes between Minot and Towner and between Sherwood and Lake Darling; dam safety and flood control modifications to seven dams in the Upper Souris and J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuges; and a flood warning system for Minot.

Authority

The Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-662) and Section 105 of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-202) and the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-580).

Status/Schedule

Canadian construction:

- Rafferty Dam construction initiated in February 1988. Dam was completed in December 1991. U.S. contribution: \$34.9 million.
- Alameda Dam construction initiated in November 1990. Dam was completed in December 1994. U.S. contribution: \$17.9 million.

U.S. Construction:

- Burlington to Minot subdivisions construction completed in 1993;
- Sawyer construction completed in 1992;
- Refuge structures construction completed in 1993.

Rural Flood Proofing:

- Construction of road raises completed in 1993;
- House acquisitions completed in 1993;
- House raises completed in December 1995;
- Construction completed in Renville County Park in 1993;
- Flood warning system completed in December 1995;
- Lake Darling Dam completed in November 1997

Project dedication ceremony was held on May 27, 1998.

Additional

Congress authorized the study, construction, and purchase of flood storage in Canada to provide flood control benefits and dam safety improvements. Channel modifications were completed at Minot in 1979 as a separate part of an overall plan for flood protection on the Souris River. The construction of urban levees at Velva, N.D., was completed in 1989.

Fiscal

Estimated Federal Cost	
Corps of Engineers	\$107,230,000
Other Federal Agency	7,000,000
Estimated Non-Federal cost	8,180,000
Total	\$122,410,000